

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A system for composing and sending a video e-mail from a sender to a receiver comprising:

a video source for taking a picture;

a first computer connected to said video source for receiving said picture, said computer provided with first software for obtaining information relating to the sender and the receiver;

a centralized web server for receiving and storing said information and said picture from said first computer, said web server provided with second software for communicating with said first computer and the receiver, said web server further provided with a memory for storing said picture in the form of a video e-mail; and

a second computer in communication with said web server, said second computer capable of receiving a communication from said web server indicating that a video e-mail directed to the receiver is stored at said memory of said web server.

2. The system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said second computer includes a means for receiving and displaying the video e-mail received from said web server.

3. The system in accordance with claim 2, wherein said web server constructs a web page including the video e-mail which is transmitted to said second computer and displayed on a web browser provided at said second computer.

4. The system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said picture includes a textual message associated therewith.

5. The system in accordance with claim 3, wherein said picture includes a textual message associated therewith.

6. The system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said picture includes an audio message associated therewith.

7. The system in accordance with claim 3, wherein said picture includes an audio message associated therewith.

8. The system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said first computer has a memory for storing said picture.

9. The system in accordance with claim 8, wherein said first software communicates said information to said second software, and further wherein said second software provides a unique message number to said first software relating to said picture.

10. The system in accordance with claim 9, wherein said picture, said information and said unique message number associated with said digital picture are uploaded to said memory of said web server.

11. The system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said communication received by the receiver from said web server includes a URL.

12. The system in accordance with claim 10, wherein said communication received by the receiver from said web server includes a URL.

13. A system for composing a video e-mail including a picture created by a video source for sending the video e-mail from a server to a receiver comprising:

a centralized web server for receiving and storing said information and said picture from said first computer, said web server provided with second software for communicating with said first computer and the receiver, said web server further

provided with a memory for storing said picture in the form of a video e-mail; and

a second computer in communication with said web server, said second computer capable of receiving a communication from said web server indicating that a video e-mail directed to the receiver is stored at said memory of said web server.

14. The system in accordance with claim 13, wherein said second computer includes a means for receiving and displaying the video e-mail received from said web server.

15. The system in accordance with claim 14, wherein said web server constructs a web page including the video e-mail which is transmitted to said second computer and displayed on a web browser provided at said second computer.

16. The system in accordance with claim 13, wherein the picture includes a textual message associated therewith.

17. The system in accordance with claim 15, wherein the picture includes a textual message associated therewith.

18. The system in accordance with claim 13, wherein the picture includes an audio message associated therewith.

19. The system in accordance with claim 15, wherein the picture includes an audio message associated therewith.

20. The system in accordance with claim 13, wherein said first computer has a memory for storing the picture.

21. The system in accordance with claim 20, wherein said first software communicates said information to said second software, and further wherein said second software provides a

unique message number to said first software relating to the digital picture.

22. The system in accordance with claim 21, wherein the picture, said information and said unique message number associated with the picture are uploaded to said memory of said web server.

23. The system in accordance with claim 13, wherein said communication received by the receiver from said web server includes a URL.

24. The system in accordance with claim 22, wherein said communication received by the receiver from said web server includes a URL.

25. A method of composing and sending a video e-mail from a sender to a receiver, comprising the steps of:

- using a video source to take a picture;
- transmitting said picture to a first computer provided with first software for obtaining information relating to the sender and the receiver;
- obtaining said information from the sender;
- forwarding said information from said first computer to a centralized web server provided with second software for communicating with said first computer and the receiver;
- providing a unique message number associated with said information;
- sending said unique message number to said first computer to be associated with said picture;
- transmitting said digital picture in the form of a video e-mail including said unique message number from said first computer to said web server;

transmitting a message to a second computer indicating that said video e-mail is ready to be delivered to the receiver at said second computer; and

transmitting said video e-mail from said web server to said second computer responsive to a command issued from said second computer to said web server.

26. The method in accordance with claim 25, further including the step of viewing said video e-mail on a web browser provided in said second computer.

27. The method in accordance with claim 26, wherein said video e-mail is constructed in the form of a web page in said server prior to being transmitted to said second computer.

28. The method in accordance with claim 25, further including the step of including a textual message with said picture.

29. The method in accordance with claim 25, further including the step of including an audio message with said picture.

30. The method in accordance with claim 25, further including the step of storing said picture in a memory provided in said first computer.

31. The system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said video source is a digital camera and said picture is a digital picture.

32. The system in accordance with claim 13, wherein the video source is a digital camera and the picture is a digital picture.

33. The method in accordance with claim 25, wherein said video source is a digital camera and said picture is a digital picture.